

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 02024 091159Z
ACTION EA-12

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-----028235 092028Z /73

R 090754Z SEP 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8667
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 2024

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CB BM VM
SUBJ: BURMA-CAMBODIA RELATIONS

1. BURMESE EMBOFF HERE HAS COMMENTED ON RECENT VISIT TO PHNOM PENH BY FOREIGN MINISTER U HLA PHONE, WHO MADE BRIEF STOPOVER IN PEKING ON HIS WAY HOME. FONMIN WAS REPORTEDLY IMPRESSED BY WHAT HE FELT WAS A NEW DESIRE ON PART OF CAMBODIAN LEADERS TO EXPAND THEIR CONTACTS WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD, PARTICULARLY WITH SOUTHEAST ASIAN STATES. BURMESE FEEL CAMBODIANS ARE BEGINNING TO REALIZE THE DISADVANTAGES OF THEIR EXTREME ISOLATION FROM REST OF WORLD.

2. EMBOFF SAID BURMESE HAD NOT LEARNED ANYTHING OF STATE OF RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIA'S IMMEDIATE NEIGHBORS. HE DID, HOWEVER, RELATE INCIDENT IN WHICH FONMIN, UPON INQUIRING ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF EXITING PHNOM PENH VIA HANOI, WAS FIRMLY DISCOURAGED BY CAMBODIANS. THE VIETNAMESE ROUTE, HE WAS TOLD, WAS UNSAFE. BURMESE HAVE IMPRESSION PHNOM PENH LEADERS ARE TRYING TO AVOID ANY NECESSITY FOR DEALINGS WITH HANOI.

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3. FON MIN PHONE SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME WITH IENG SARY, WHO DID NOT APPEAR TO BE IN ANY POLITICAL TROUBLE. BURMESE PARTY SAW NO EVIDENCE OF A RECENT COUP. IN PLACE OF CALL ON PRIME MINISTER POL POT, HOWEVER, WHO WAS DESCRIBED AS "SICK", FONMIN MET NUON CHEA, THE HEAD OF THE PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY.

BURMESE FOUND IT STRANGE THAT NUON CHEA WAS
SUBSTITUTED INSTEAD OF A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, BUT
RECEIVED NO EXPLANATION FROM THE CAMBODIANS.
WOODCOCK

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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